



MR. *S T E R L I N G*'s

*S E R M O N,*

Preached before the GOVERNOR, and  
both Houses of ASSEMBLY, *De-*  
*cember* 13, 1754-



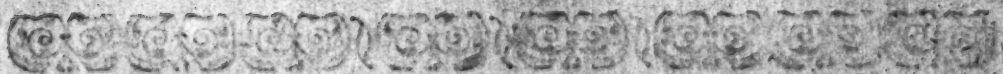


Mr. STELLINGMA

SERMON

Preached before the  
both Houses of the Assembly, and  
the Governor, Dec.

1754.





b94. e 3

A

# S E R M O N,

PREACHED BEFORE

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR

OF

M A R Y L A N D,

AND

Both Houses of A S S E M B L Y,

AT  
AN N A P O L I S,

December 13, 1754.

---

By JAMES STERLING, A. M.

Rector of St. Paul's Parish, in Kent County.

---

A N N A P O L I S:

Printed by *James Green*, Printer to the Province.

MDCCLV.

S E R M O N



By the Lower House of Assembly,

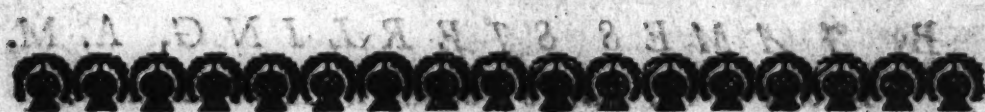
December 13, 1754. P.M.

M A R T I N

Ordered,

THAT Col. *William Fitzhugh*, Mr. *Lloyd Buchanan*, Col. *John Henry*, Mr. *William Hicks*, Mr. *Henry Casson*, and Capt. *Alexander Williamson*, do wait upon the Reverend Mr. *James Sterling*, and return him the Thanks of the House, for his Sermon preached this Day before his Excellency the Governor, and both Houses of Assembly, and request a Copy thereof that it may be Printed.

*M. Macnemara*, Cl. Lo. Ho.





## THE PRAYER.

**OMNIPOTENT** and Universal Father!  
**O** Source of Light and Truth! Purify our  
 Minds from erroneous Prejudices: Eradi-  
 cate thence every meanly-selfish, and con-  
 tracted Notion; and let all thy true Votaries, in this  
 Province especially, with a well-regulated Zeal, in-  
 spir'd by the Love of our Religion and Country, com-  
 bine to stop the Torrents of Profaneness and Infidelity;  
 or, their as dangerous Opposites, servile Superstition,  
 and all-devouring Bigotry! — Let Honesty and In-  
 dustry, Loyalty and Public Spirit, with a Charity  
 extensive to our Species, flourish through all Ranks of  
 our Fellow-Subjects; while Respect to our Rulers su-  
 preme and subordinate, and Reverence to the Laws,  
 maternal and provincial, are every where propaga-  
 ted, as the Basis of Peace and Happiness, private  
 and popular; to the Suppression of predominant Im-  
 morality and Vice; and to the Maintenance of Chris-  
 tian and social Virtues!

*We farther supplicate Thee, in Behalf of the whole  
 Race of Mankind; for Those, who are yet in the  
 Darkeness of Nature degenerated, and wander in the*

*Vale and Shadow of Death; that the Rays of thy glorious Gospel may speedily illuminate this great Continent, diffuse their Influence to the remotest Regions of the Globe, and compleat our Messiah's Dominion !*

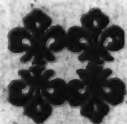
*Bless and preserve our only rightful, and gracious Monarch, King George ; the Heir Apparent of his Crowns ; and the whole Royal Family ; and may the British Scepter be ever sway'd in continu'd Succession, by Patriot Princes of that illustrious Line ! — Bestow thy Favour and Support to the Lord Proprietary of this Province ; to the King's and his Chief Delegate here ; to the whole Council ; and to all the People, collective, or, as now represented, in General Assembly ; and may Protection and Obedience be reciprocal between the Governing and Governed !*

*Shed thy Graces and Benediction on the Universities and Seminaries of Learning and Piety ; and may all Persons educated therein, in particular our Missionary Pastors, by conscientious Assiduity in the Discharge of their holy Function ; by their Life and Doctrine ; advance to the utmost the sacred Cause of Truth and Liberty ! — Under the Umbrage of thy Wings may the purest Part of the Catholic Church, of which we are Members, be evermore defended ! — And, O preserve, with our Ecclesiastical, our Civil Constitution, from foreign and intestine Enemies ! — Assuage their Malice ; confound their Devices ; hasten their Reformation ; we earnestly beseech thee, without Hatred of their Persons, and with Abhorrence only of their Prin-*



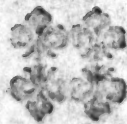
*Principles!—Prosper the Arms of these confederated Colonies for their mutual and common Safety: Humble in Europe and America the hostile Aggressors and Disturbers of England's Peace; and animate all her Sons, in the just, necessary, and self-defensive Expedition, we are now undertaking, to assert and vindicate her violated Rights.—Finally, let indissoluble Union heal the Wounds of former Divisions, and render us invincible!—May there be no future Contention among us; but an universal Emulation to promote thy Glory, O GOD, and the Welfare of the Community; and from thy Vengeance on particular, or national Guilt, Good Lord, deliver us, for the Sake, and thro' the Intercession of our Divine Mediator, in whose own sententious Form of Prayer, we sum up our Petitions and supply their Defects,*

*Our Father, who art in Heaven, &c.*



Principles!—Transfer the aims of these confederated  
 Colonies for their mutual and common safety: America  
 in Europe and America the hostile Aggressors and their  
 interests of England's Peace; and animate all her sons  
 in the just, necessary, and self-defensive Expedition  
 we are now undertaking, to assist and vindicate her  
 violated Rights!—Finally, let indissoluble Union  
 bind the Bonds of former Disunion, and render us  
 invincible!—May there be no future Contention  
 among us; but an universal Emulation to promote thy  
 Glory, O GOD, and the Welfare of the Community;  
 and from thy Mercies on particular, or national  
 Guilt, Good Lord, deliver us, for the Sake, and thro'  
 the Intercession of our Divine Mediator, in whose name  
 fervent Form of Prayer, we join up our Petitions  
 and supply their Defects.

Our Father, who art in Heaven, &c.





Epistle to the GALATIANS; Chap. iv. Ver. 18.

*It is good to be zealously affected always in a good Thing.---*

**T**HERE is no Duty more needful to be strenuously and universally inculcated, than what my Text concisely, but emphatically, recommends; nor any Opportunity, wherein I may hope to do it with more Advantage, than what now solemnly offers itself.---

In discoursing on these memorable Words, I shall, *First*, explain the true Purport of them; showing under what Limitations the glorious Virtue, here enjoyn'd, is to be understood; and at the same Time proving that the Practice of it, as it springs from laudable Principles, and is manag'd by a right Conduct, is truly a religious, as well as civil Duty.

*Secondly*, I shall demonstrate from some Instances, of *Jewish* History chiefly, that in Proportion as this Queen of Virtues was more or less asserted, cherish'd, and epidemically diffus'd, the Rise and Progress, or the Fall and Declension, of the *Hebrew* State, and indeed

of the most potent Empire and Common-Wealths; and consequently of Arts and Sciences, may be made and ascertain'd.

*Thirdly*, I shall, as cogently as I can, enforce the Doctrine of this divine Precept, with a particular Application to my respectable Auditors, not only to each Individual, interested as a Member of the Society in the Welfare and Preservation of his Country; but, with all Humility and Deference, to the *Three Branches* of it's Legislature; most of whom, I was, at a short Warning, inform'd, wou'd previously convene at this sacred Place, to implore the Blessing of Almighty GOD on their Consultations, for taking the most speedy, effectual, and salutary Measures to secure the public Peace, Honour, and Emolument, in this critical Juncture; And this I shall dutifully and conscientiously endeavour to perform, by urging to you some of the principal Motives, that ought to influence a Christian, in-  
 fligate a Commonwealthsman, and animate a true *Briton*.

*First*, I am to set forth the true Purport of the Words of my Text; showing what the glorious Virtue is, and under what Circumscriptions it is here enjoin'd; and proving, as it springs from laudable Principles, and is manag'd by a well-temper'd Conduct, that the Practice of it is truly a religious, as well as civil Duty.

*It is good to be zealously affected always in a good Thing.*—Which is as much as to say in Paraphrase,  
 —It is an indispensable Duty, universally, and, in course,



course, obligatory on Christian Converts, under the  
 Light of the Gospel, as it was before on all Nations  
 under the mere moral Guidance of Nature, (since it is  
 absurd and impious to maintain, that the Laws of the  
 Former cou'd ever supersede or contradict the genuine  
 Dictates of the Latter, which they were intended to  
 strengthen, and give a higher Sanction, to) on all,  
 without Exception, obligatory; and that too, at all  
 Times,—"To be cordially affected with a good  
 " Thing, in Proportion to the Object exciting this  
 " Affection, or the Exigence requiring it."—Or, in  
 other Words,—"To apply the Faculties of our Minds,  
 " and the Powers of our Bodies, with the prudential  
 " Influence of our respective Stations and Fortunes, for  
 " the Advancement of a good Cause, for obtaining,  
 " by honest Means, honest Ends, whether they regard  
 " a local and less general Welfare in an inferior De-  
 " gree, or the Utility of the whole Community in the  
 " highest."

So, you see, Zeal, in general, is the grand Virtue  
 here recommended by the eminent Apostle, not only  
 to the Churches of *Galatia*, to whom he particularly  
 addresses this Epistle, but to all Disciples of *Christ*,  
 wheresoever dispersed, to whom he design'd his sacred  
 Writings shou'd be duly and impartially communica-  
 ted, in order to be transcrib'd, and publicly read in  
 their Assemblies of Worship, for the Benefit of all  
 Ranks of People. Nor did the mighty *Saint Paul*  
 think it sufficient barely to act as the Scribe of the *Holy*  
*Ghost*, but he most remarkably distinguish'd himself  
 in being on all proper Occasions the practical and fore-

most Example of the noble Precept he delivers. No Difficulties discourag'd; no Dangers deterr'd; no private Avocations diverted him (as with a generous Consciousness, but modest Declaration, he informs us), from the arduous Work of his Ministry; from serving the Cause of his GOD, his Countrymen, and Mankind. Hence it is, that he so strenuously insists on the full Exertion of all the adequate Ardour, which a good Cause calls for in Execution: All the Heroism, which Virtue glowingly suggests, or Christianity inspires. As the Practice of his Master's Dispensation was very properly stil'd a Warfare; what forceful Images, what bold Figures, does he borrow from the military Art and *Roman* Discipline, to train up his Pupils by the holy Exercise for glorious Exploits in the Combats they were destin'd to; for the various Lists they were to wrestle in; "for fighting against Principalities and Powers; and the Rulers of the Darkness of this World; against spiritual Wickedness in high Places? They are commanded to put on the whole Armour of GOD: To gird their Loins with Truth: To assume the Breast-plate of Righteousness: To stand firm in the Post of Honour: To invest their Heads with the Helmet of Salvation: To wield the Sword of the Spirit: And, above all, to defend themselves with the Shield of Faith, whereby they might quench, or repel, all the fiery Darts of the Wicked." ed.

Again, in being obliged to propose himself, as a Pattern to them of Patience and Fortitude, while he industriously guards against Imputations of Vanity, with



with what persuasive, what resistless Eloquence, does this consummate Orator (scarce less humanly learned, than divinely inspir'd) insinuate himself into the Hearts of his Readers, and captivate their Passions, while he convinces their Understandings? Such was this Instrument of Providence for accomplishing the most important Enterprizes; this *Elect of GOD*:—Not arbitrarily so, but becoming his *chosen Vessel* from the previous Disposition of a good Heart to engage in a good Cause at all Adventures: And that he vitally and intimately felt, what he wou'd proselyte others to, we cannot doubt, when he thus expresses himself to his Countrymen, proverbially proud of the Origin of their Nation! “Are you *Hebrews*? So am I!—(And, by anticipating the Application of the subsequent Part of this Sermon, let me too somewhat abruptly say,—Are you *Englishmen*? Are you, my Hearers, *Britons*?—You are: All are: So am I!—And therefore, independent of my sacred Function, I have a natural Claim to your Attention.) But, to proceed, “Are you *Israelites*, or of the Seed of *Abraham*? So am I! In Labours more abundant: In “Stripes above Measure: In Prisons frequent: In “Deaths oft: Of the *Jews* five Times receiv'd I forty “Stripes, save one: Thrice was I beaten with Rods: “Once was I ston'd: Thrice I suffer'd Shipwreck: A “Night and a Day have I been in the Deep: In “Journeying often: In Perils of Water: In Perils of “Robbers: In Perils of mine own Countrymen: In “Perils by the Heathen: In Perils in the City: In “Perils in the Wilderness: In Perils in the Sea: In “Perils among false Brethren: In Weariness and  
“Pain-

" Painfulness : In Watchings often : In Hunger and  
 " Thirst : In Fastings often : In Cold and Nakedness :  
 " And (besides those numberless Things, that are  
 " without) that, which cometh upon me daily, the  
 " Care of all the Churches.

Thus equally from the Doctrine and Example of  
 Saint Paul (without insisting on many other Scriptural  
 Instances, no less pertinent) we may be sufficiently  
 assur'd, that Zeal, rightly understood and well-regula-  
 ted, is truly a Christian and Social Virtue ; not only  
 speculatively to be assented to by Reason, but incum-  
 bent on the Votaries of CHRIST, to be carry'd into Act  
 with Alacrity and Assiduity, as best may serve the  
 meritorious Purposes, which are only attainable by its  
 Assistance.——The Phrase indeed, *to be zealously af-*  
*fect**ed*, however obvious to all candid and ordinary  
 Understandings, is often liable to be abus'd, and gross-  
 ly misapply'd by rash and precipitate Men. It means  
 no more than an intense Bent of Mind and vigorous  
 Attachment to whatever we are engag'd in, or con-  
 cern'd about ; and, like all other Passions, such as  
 Love, Anger, and the like, may be laudable or culpa-  
 ble ; equally productive of the noblest Ends, or most  
 ruinous Consequences, according as it is kept within  
 due Bounds, or permitted to swell to Excess ; and its  
 intrinsic Goodness or Badness must be determin'd by  
 its Motive, Object, and Degree. : Thus the Violence of  
 this very Saint Paul for persecuting the Church of  
 CHRIST, before his Conversion, is call'd Zeal : The  
 same Word which he uses, for the Virtue he so highly  
 commends in my Text ; where he takes Care (as the  
 MARK



Mark and Criterion of Distinction) to direct the Regulation of our Zeal, by confining it to be employ'd always in a good Thing; for then only itself can be always good. It nearly behoves us then, that our Zeal be occupy'd rightly; otherwise it degenerates into wild Folly, Madness and Sin; and the more we are transported by it, the more Guilt we shall contract. To be zealous for the Honour of GOD, for the Interest and Propagation of our holy Religion; for the Benefit of our Species, or the Prosperity of our Country, is no Doubt, of all other Things, most praise-worthy; though even in these Cases our Zeal may be misguided and sadly perverted, and so lose all its Value and Reward.—But, on the other Hand, Luke-warmness and Indifference therein, is certainly most base and unmanly in the Sense of Nature, and, from various Authorities in the Word of GOD, most degrading and sinful, “Thou shalt love the Lord, thy GOD, with thine  
 “Heart, with all thy Mind, with all thy Soul, and  
 “with all thy Strength: And thy Neighbour (in which general Word our Country is mainly included)  
 “as thy self,” is declar'd by our Saviour to be the Effence and Sum of Religion, and to comprehend the whole of the Law and the Prophets.—That is,—All divine, social, and moral Duties, perfective of our Natures, and preparative to our Happiness. And here it is remarkable, how emphatically, and with what repetitions Enforcements our Lord urges a well-grounded Zeal; excluding from it, lest his Meaning should be convey'd in too feeble a manner, all Coldness, Listlessness and vile Mediocrity. Indeed in all his Actions, in all his private Documents, and public Sermons, in  
 his

his Life, and in his Death, he displays, with an Energy becoming the Captain of our Salvation, his Approbation, beyond all others, of this Virtue, soaring to all the warrantable and rational Degrees, to which it may be exalted. Nay, he exhibits it as the Test and Characteristic of his faithful Militants, his noble Army of veteran Martyrs and Confessors; and, we know, a Diffusion of this generous Principle among them, render'd them more than Conquerors in the midst of Flames; till, triumphant over ten bloody Persecutions of merciless Tyrants, they subdu'd all the Rage and Fury of Fiends and Men; of spiritual and incarnate Demons, associated against them.

Again, says our Redeemer, deterring us from an Abatement of true Zeal: "He, that loves Father or Mother, Brother or Sister, Wife or Children, more than me, is not worthy to be my Disciple:" And we may easily conceive, by attending to the true Import of these Words, that he means not hereby to destroy the Ties of these sacred Relationships, or in the least to relax, or weaken them, when he elsewhere takes all Occasions tenderly to strengthen them, both as natural and positive Duties; but that, when any Concernments of an inferior Kind happen to come in Competition with those of a superior Importance, so as that an absolute Adherence to the former cannot be maintain'd, without Renouncing the latter, then the higher Obligation must take Place, and indispensably claims our Preference. Thus a well-regulated Zeal, without more ado, will dictate to us, that the Glory of our universal Father, *who is in Heaven*, must be nearer



nearer our Hearts, than our Affections to our earthly Parents, who are but his Instruments, and secondary Agents for our Being. Thus all, who enjoy the various Benefits and Protection of the Laws of a Society are strictly and fundamentally bound to a primary Regard for its Health and Safety beyond lesser Considerations, personal Views, smaller Alliances, and the like: And if we wou'd deserve for our Zeal to be stil'd, like *David*, Men after GOD's own Heart, our Love to the Community must surmount these, even as much as the Whole is greater than a small Quantity of its Parts, or a Species of People more numerous than a few of its Individuals.

Thus then the Flame of our Incense is never pure and acceptable, or sends forth a sweet Savour, but when it burns brightly, and unadulterated with smouldering Smoke; which a faint Heat, or Lukewarmness, chiefly Occasions. Its Fuel too must be lasting and permanent; not apt to blaze out too fiercely, and after a transient Violence expire, like *Thorns under a Pot*, as the Psalmist expresses it. In short, we must use the most prudential Caution to steer in the golden Medium between the Extremes of intemperate Fury, in a good Cause, and an almost creeping, grovelling, and sordid Insensibility, on the other. While a Bigot in every light is odious; a meer moderate Lover of his Country (especially when Danger threatens it ever so remotely, and much more when it nearly approaches), is a most detestable and ridiculous Monster. If we wou'd escape the Imputation of the former, we shou'd meditate on the Words of *St. Paul*, in his Epistle to the *Romans*:

*I bear them Record, that they have a Zeal for GOD, but not according to Knowledge. Or if we wou'd not be stigmatiz'd for being as despicable as the latter, let us animadvert on what the Angel in the Revelations commands St. John to write to the Churches of Laodicea.—I know thy Works, that thou art neither cold, nor hot: I wou'd, that thou wert either cold, or hot: So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my Mouth.*

We live, alas! in an Age, when true public Spirit (by which I understand the most elevated Species of the Zeal here prov'd a Christian Duty), is very languid and defective; where too often, a Spirit of Faction, the very Reverse of it, usurps its Place, and arrogates with loud and awkward Insolence its sacred Form; but the specious Mask may be easily stripp'd off, and its native Deformity detected by a little more than ordinary Inspection into its blustering Pretences and Ends of Action; which will be all found in a little Time to spring from, or center in, some low, mercenary, and contracted View. We too frequently observe it invidiously obstructing the Wheels of Government, and embroiling a State, where it is not admitted to an immediate Participation of Power: Industriously watchful to detect and aggravate little Errors in an Administration, for the Gratification of private Spleen and Revenge; employing its clamorous Rhetoric to render itself of Consequence; and pertinaciously maintaining its Importance, by instilling Jealousies, fomenting Discontents, and attracting popular Applause from the giddy *Vulgar*, great and small, with strong Passions and weak Brains. But all



all this argues a Disingenuity, and Infirmary of Mind, and is no more to be compar'd to public Spirit, than the unnatural Tumours in a dropsical Person, to the just Proportions of a sound and healthful Body.

In fine, while I really think there is more Danger to be apprehended from a shameful Deficiency in this all-animating Principle, than from its Excess and Redundancy, I won'd have every true Patriot fix its proper Boundaries in Reason and Conscience, and distinguish the fierce, unbridled, bloody, and enthusiastical Zeal of a thorough-pac'd Republican and desperate Regicide; of an *Ireton* and a *Bradshaw*, from the inflexibly honest, wise, and disciplin'd Ardour of a *Hamden*; equally employing his Tongue in the Senate, and his Sword in the Field, in Defence of his Country's unalienable Rights: Of Liberty invaded:—Social Liberty! Mankind's original and universal Charter from Heaven!—*Hamden*,—I say; almost singly at first stemming the Torrent of Royal Intrusions and Ministerial Oppression; who, living, stood the Bulwark of the State; and, dying, fell the Emulation of Heroes! An Example, alone sufficient to rouse undegenerated *Britons* in any Time of public Distress (whether foreign or civil) into somewhat *more* than ancient *Romans*; as much *more*, as our Constitution in State is preferable in all Respects to their boasted Republic; and our Protestant Christianity to the (almost-similar) Idolatry of old, or modern *Rome*!

Though much remains to be still spoken to on this Head, yet lest an intelligent Audience might think

a farther Enlargement too great an Invasion of their Time, I shall proceed to the next :

And show, in the *second Place*, from some glaring Instances of ancient *Jewish* History chiefly, that in Proportion, as this Sovereign of social Virtues, public Spirit, or in other Words, the Love of our Country, was more or less asserted, cherish'd, and epidemically diffus'd, the Rise and Progress, or the Fall and Declension of the *Hebrew* State, and indeed of the most potent Commonwealths and Empires, *Greek* and *Roman*, and consequently of Arts and Sciences, may be trac'd and ascertain'd.

After the Expulsion of the impious and idolatrous Nations, and the Settlement of the *Jews* in the promis'd Land, purchas'd by a memorable Series of glorious Victories under their mighty Leader *Joshua* ; how soon did they sink into torpid Indolence, and were lull'd into a base Security and false Confidence, by the bewitching Charms of the *Syrens*, Peace and Plenty ; supporting themselves rather by the Terror of their Name, than by any intrinsic Principle of national Strength, or external Preparation ? How soon did they forget the last, the dying, Instructions of their great Lawgiver under *GOD*, *Moses*, manfully to defend the Country, which they ow'd to the Indulgence of Providence ; that goodly Country, *flowing with Milk and Honey* ; yet, take Notice, inferior in Situation and Fertility, (and, all Things consider'd, in Climate too), to that, which we, of this delightful Province, from the same all bountiful Hand, now possess ? How were they prepar'd to be sent



sent back to their *Egyptian* Taskmasters; to servile Drudgery; to be *Hewers of Wood, and Drawers of Water*, to groan out their bestial Lives under the Tyranny of a *Pharaoh*, (the true Antitype of the most *Christian* King, the most despotical, persecuting *French Grand Monarch*) to be driven, by their Overseers, like our restive Negro-Slaves, *to make Brick without Straw*, to erect a Pyramid, or a *Versailles*, an eternal Monument of their own Subjection, and their Tyrant's Vain-Glory?—How quickly did their brutal Appetites yearn after their precarious Meals of sodden Fleshpots; for the edible Gods of their Masters; and the Gods of their own Bellies; even Lentils, Leeks and Onions; which despicably and ingratelously they murmur'd for, in Preference to Manna or Quails; to Liberty and *the Bread of Heaven*! How soon by deviating from the Maxims, on which only their conditional Establishment was to be confirm'd, did they fall under the galling and alternate Yoke of every neighbouring Heathen Nation, adopting the Manners, and in Part the Religion of their corrupted and corrupting Conquerors; as we read in the *Book of Judges*; all the Chapters of which are only brief Annals of their Infatuation and Subjection; or of their Repentance and miraculous Deliverance under Heaven-rai'd Generals, or occasionally-selected Chieftains, according to their several Emergencies and Distresses.—Every now and then, such a Leader was indeed requisite! *Such*, as the Inhabitants of this Province have Reason to felicitate themselves upon, in his gracious Majesty's paternal Choice, or Approbation of our Governor, to conduct, either singly, or in Conjunction with other  
Com-

Commanders, our own, and the Forces of the contiguous Colonies, in Association, on a concerted Expedition in our present Exigency, against the enterprising Foes of *Europe's*, *America's*, and the World's Repose; if he be enabled by the present (I hope and believe Patriot) *Assembly* to prosecute the Royal Orders, and his own generous Purpose.——A Gentleman, who (without a vain Compliment in the awful House of GOD) has a real Right to a high Esteem from you, both on Account of his Station and personal Merit; and whom it is the Duty of us all to regard, as not deriving his Preferments from Court-Interest, but as thus distinguish'd for known Loyalty, and military Experience, which we cannot doubt, but he will now exert to the utmost, if an ill-tim'd Parsimony does not starve his Cause, and petty Dissentions and Avocations from the grand Concernment, do not interpose to check his Designs, and prevent what his cool Deliberation, and natural Ardour, give us most rational Hopes he will have a main Hand in accomplishing: The principal Merit and Glory of which, will redound to this Province, and more and more recommend its important Interests to the Mother-Nation, so intimately blended with her own; if our Contributions for the common Service be more chearfully given, or more speedily rais'd, than those of our Neighbouring Governments.——

But, again, if we consider the *Israelitish* Nation under their Kings, (whose Government they perversely prefer'd to an Hierarchy under the *King of Kings*) to what can we impute the Train and Vicissitude of Calamities, they by Intervals groan'd under, but to a  
stupid



stupid Dormancy, or Decay of this virtuous Zeal in themselves, or their Monarchs? To this dire Source their Prophets unanimously ascribe the Decadence of their State, and the various Judgments of GOD. Whenever any Degree of public Spirit reviv'd, as in the Reigns of *David* and *Solomon* most remarkably, and afterwards in those of *Asa*, *Hezekiah*, *Josiah*, and a few Others; how did they attract the divine Favour, to the Confusion of their haughty Enemies? How did the Almighty Arm interpose to save them in the Crisis of complicated Perils? The Almighty Arm, indeed; though not without their own Efforts! (For, they have a wrong Notion of the usual Conduct of Providence in sublunary Affairs, who absurdly suppose, that it never uses, or concurs with human Abilities, Dispositions, and Improvements, as Instruments to work it's Purposes!) How prodigiously did useful Arts then flourish: Witness that stupendous Structure, their glorious Temple, so magnificent, so richly ornamented, as wou'd tire Description? How must smiling Commerce have been extended, not only by the numerous Caravans that pass'd by them to *Egypt*, *Mesopotamia*, *Assyria*, *Persia*, and the farthest *Arabia*, but by Means of the much envy'd Ports of *Eloth* and *Exiongeber* on the Red Sea, the great Marts for the Treasures of *Ophir*, and all the rich Commodities of the *East-Indies*; which drew such a Mass of Wealth on this People, while industrious and uncorrupted, (that is, while influenc'd by public Spirit) that Silver once abounded so as to be accounted but *as the Stones of the Street for it's Plenty*; and Gold, Jewels, Spices, Balsams, Perfumes, and invaluable medical Druggs, were transmitted

ted either by themselves from their principal Sea-Town *Toppa*, or more probably in the Bottomry of *Phenician* Merchants, through all the Coast of the *Mediterranean*, to the Straits of *Gades*, and the Western Ocean; and we have good Grounds to conjecture that this originally open'd, or vastly assisted that immense Trade, by which the *Sidonians* and *Tyrians* were so early enrich'd and renown'd; and by which their ever-famous Colony of *Carthage* rose from the meanest Beginnings to the sublimest Pitch of earthly Grandeur, so as to contend for a long Time, and in the most bloody and consumptive Wars, with the *Romans* themselves, their only Rivals for the Empire of the then known World. By listening to the noble Dictates of this vitally active Principle, how did all temporal Blessings, as it were in course, accrue to *Judea*; and how did that minute Spot of the Globe, not half so large as *Maryland*, nor attended, as I hinted, with so many natural Advantages, raise and support such countless Myriads of People, as scarce any History, without the Sanction of Inspiration, cou'd persuade our Belief of? Wonderful as this seems, it is to be accounted for from what I have laid down, as it's Foundation; even, from selfish Attachments to public Interests; (for *self* and *social*, if justly stated, will be found to be but the same Thing in the End, or centering in one Point) by strictly adhering to their Laws; by loving their civil and ecclesiastical Polity; by a firm Union among themselves; by a due Submission to executive Authority; by an honest and vigilant Jealousy of the ambitious Designs of turbulent Neighbours to disturb their Property, or distress their Trade; by a firm Resolution to repel violent  
Invasions,



Invasions, and retaliate national Injuries; by manuring and cultivating every Inch of their narrow Territory, even the most barren Parts, Hills, stoney Vallies, and sandy Plains, to the last Possibility of Perfection; (the apparent Vestiges of which Industry cannot escape a curious Traveller, as Doctor *Moundrel* assures us at this Day, in it's desolate and miserable Condition) by judiciously considering the Genius of each particular Soil; and by planting, or sowing therein, whatever was most adapted to it's natural, or reclaim'd State; by encouraging Artificers of all Sorts, and employing their laborious Poor in various Manufactures; and by opening their Hearts and Purses liberally, and by lending their Hands readily and without murmuring, to aid the Community on all Occasions, to chastise the incurive Heathen, and fight the *Battles of the Lord*.

If you shou'd want further Conviction of this; modern *Holland* will show you, how by pursuing such Measures, (consider'd only in a political Light) their seven diminutive Provinces, not much bigger than seven of our Counties, withstood the whole Monarchy of *Spain*, (then in her Altitude of Power, and assisted with the Wealth of both *Indies* by the Conquest of *Portugal*) dissipating her Land-Forces, and Sea-Armadas, and rendering itself independent of Inquisitions and Tyrants, by incredible Efforts in Trade and Arms at the same Time; till from being the most *Distressed States* (as they call'd themselves in our renown'd Queen *Elisabeth's* Days) they rose almost instantaneously, like Meteors in Clouds and Storms, to the pompous Deno-

D

mination

mination of *High and Mighty*; the Monopolizers of Commerce; the Controullers of Kings; and the Arbiters of *Europe*.

A free and mercantile People, who hear all this, must be cover'd with Blushes, or glow with Emulation at the first Recital!

On the other Hand, what caus'd the general Contempt, frequent Captivities, and almost utter Excision of this devoted People, the *Jews*, but being deaf to the reiterated Advice, Threats, and Warnings of their several Prophets: In stupidly dividing the incommunicable Honours and Worship of *Jebovah* with the Calves of *Jeroboam* (who seduc'd ten whole Tribes to a final Revolt at once;) in bowing the Knee alternately to *Baal*, or *Rimmon*, or *Dagon*, or *Ashtoroth*, or *Isis*; and the Rabble of Gods and Goddesses of their Ethnic Neighbours; perhaps as numerous, and as much ador'd, as those we find Sainted, and more than Half-Deify'd, in the long Muster-Roll of a Popish Calendar; in letting Zeal stagnate by Inaction; or sink into enervate Languor by relaxing the only Sinews of Power and Greatness; by a total Depravation of Manners: And in adopting Schemes diametrically opposite to general Felicity; while they ridiculously imagin'd, that the particular Prosperity of Families, or a narrowly-divided and partial Happiness might continue in a weak and tottering Kingdom.

'Tis true that after the Return of a Remnant of them from their Seventy-Year's Thraldom in *Babylon*, they cannot be justly chargeable with a similar ill Conduct;  
and



and by smarting so long and so severely for their Apostacy, they can be no more accus'd of the least Poneness to Idolatry; and the brave and memorable Struggles they made under the heroic Race of the *Maccabees* against the *Syro-Macedonian* Tyrants, in Vindication of their Religion and Liberty, are highly commendable; and they were accordingly rewarded for it; for, by this Means only their Temple and civil Polity were fully restor'd: They emerg'd for a while, and had some Appearance again of being GOD's select People.—

But how soon did they grow wanton, like the stall-fed Ox fit for Slaughter, by battenning in Peace, Opulence and Luxury? How soon did they relapse, though not into the same, yet into the other equally destructive extreme of popular Folly? Read but their own *Historian* well-conversant with those Times, and you will be abundantly confirm'd by what swift Gradations, they pav'd the Way for Extirpation, or total Dispersion when they began to change a true Zeal into a false; when, by admitting Cabals and Faction, into their *Sanhedrin* and Councils, they split into various Sects, and exasperated the divided Rabble into fanatical Phrensy by the magical Nicknames (Sounds, without Ideas) of *Pharisee*, *Sadducee*, *Herodian*, and the like: For, as to the Meaning and Distinction of the Terms, the Majority knew no more of them, than many of our Fellow-Subjects lately did what *Whig* and *Tory*, *High-Church* and *Low-Church* signify'd. Their crafty Demagogues and Ringleaders blew the Coals: The inflam'd Populace were set together by the Ears with a Jargon of hard Words: The *Church* forsooth was in Jeopardy: The Court and Country were alternately in

Fault, as the Tide ebb'd or flow'd: All Men were alarm'd, (Few knew why,) at intestine Danger, and laugh'd at foreign; being too eagerly occupy'd in domestic Discords to be sufficiently watchful against formidable and surrounding Enemies, who were too wise to neglect the Opportunity these Dissentions gave them of properly availing themselves thereby.

Thus either by Defect and Omission, or by Abuse and Transgression in Degree of their Zeal or public Spirit, this Heaven-abandon'd People fill'd up the Measure of their Iniquity; and were permitted in their last atrocious Act to crucify their *Messiah*. And thus, in the Nature of Things, and without any absolute Decree of G O D, they were self-doom'd to all the Horrors of civil Butchery, and *Roman* Vengeance, with such terrible, and accumulated Circumstances of Fire, Sword, Pestilence and Famine, as never before afflicted any other Nation, and does too much Violence on Humanity to hear, or relate.—This Good however may be educ'd from their Ill, that a vagabond Residue of them are still preserv'd in all Parts of the World to warn those, they live among, if they wou'd escape their Fate, to avoid those Stages of different Guilt, into which they desperately plung'd themselves at particular Seasons.

It wou'd require a Volume rather than a Sermon, shou'd I make Extracts for further enforcing the momentous Truth of this Head from profane Records, since such can be but little necessary, after what I have advanc'd from the sacred Oracles.

Let



Let me therefore only cursorily glance at what the greatest Sages of the two wisest and most renown'd Nations, that ever aw'd and enlighten'd Mankind, have deliver'd as to these Points, *Demosthenes* and *Cicero*; *Thucydides* and *Tacitus*, *Aristotle* and *Pliny*: In short, the most famous Orators, Historians, Philosophers and Patriots have evinc'd that the *Greeks* and *Romans* ow'd all their Glory in Arts and Arms, not so much to other salutary Institutions of their original Lawgivers, *Lycurgus*, *Solon*, or *Numa*, as to this one simple Principle of Public Spirit, or a virtuous and well-temper'd Zeal for the Honour and Welfare of their Country, being infus'd into and propagated among, all Ranks of their Subjects, with the utmost Care even from their earliest Infancy.—This (notwithstanding some temporary Commotions, which necessarily and frequently will arise in free States, as the Excrescencies of Liberty, or from the Want of absolute Perfection in human Societies) I say,—Notwithstanding these,—This sole Principle render'd them invincible, confer'd on them the two last of the four great Monarchies foretold by *Daniel*, and immortaliz'd their Name.—Hence the liberal Sciences triumph'd, and the *Muses* exultingly sung: Hence *Apelles* touch'd the Canvas into mimic Life, and Marble seem'd to breathe from the forming Hand of *Praxiteles*. Hence the Works of *Homer*, by exquisitely celebrating the Heroes of Antiquity, in Effect daily created new Ones, while a Transfusion of their Virtues was felt in the Breast of every Reader, capable of being warm'd by his Sentiments and Numbers. Hence a *Curtius* leap'd into the opening Gulph; and the *Decii* devoted themselves.

selves.——Hence a First *Brutus*, with an Heart as  
 bright and impervious too, as a Rock of polish'd Ada-  
 mant, asserted the impartial Tribunal of Liberty re-  
 stor'd; pass'd Sentence of Death on his own Rebel-  
 Sons; and sat with an awful Serenity, till he saw it  
 executed on the two degenerate Youths.——A Godlike  
 Act! Nor is an *English* Christian Clergyman ashamed  
 to give it from the Pulpit that high Epithet, though  
 perform'd by a Heathen.——A Godlike Act; to show  
 amaz'd Posterity, how much the *Consul* shou'd transcend  
 the *Parent*; and the Father of his Country rise above  
 the Father of the Children of his Bowels!——Thus  
 too the second *Brutus*, with a Zeal worthy of the First,  
 bath'd his Dagger in the Heart's Blood of a proud  
 Usurper: A perfidious and overgrown Robber:——A  
 Robber, in spite of the false Glare and tinsel Splendor  
 that Adulation deck'd him in; in spite of all those fine  
 Qualities and happy Endowments of Art and Nature,  
 by which he excell'd the Sons of Men; and which but  
 render'd him more eminently culpable, when they  
 were perverted into Instruments of overthrowing the  
 Liberties of his Country, and not made subservient  
 only for it's Preservation and Glory!——Yes,——On  
 this Principle he was justly stabb'd in the midst of his  
 servile, and venal Senate; when no other Resource  
 was left to reinstate the Common-Wealth in it's former  
 Lustre of Independency and Freedom. Hence too,——  
 Lastly,——the venerable *Elders* of a former Senate, but  
 of another Stamp, display'd an Example of truly *Ro-*  
*man* Fortitude, that shou'd engage the Attention of  
 the *Representatives* of a brave *British* People, I mean,  
 that of those *Conscript Fathers*; who, when their  
 Counsels



Counsellors could no longer assist their bleeding Country, and their Hands were too feeble through the Infirmities of Age to draw a Sword in its Defence, resolv'd to bury themselves in its Ruins rather than survive it, and with a patient Dignity suffer'd their Throats to be cut by the inhuman Galls (the Predecessors of the present invading, burning, scalping, persecuting, all-massacreing *French*) who, like a rushing Torrent under *Brennus*, broke into *Italy*; still, as they advanc'd, swelling their Numbers with fresh Accessions of rapacious Barbarians, in every savage Country, through which they march'd.—

But how did these *sovereign Republics* suffer the Ensigns of Dominion to be snatch'd from their Hands, and all their Laurels to be wither'd? Whence is it, that they declin'd so fast from their Meridian Glory; from their Zenith of boasted Liberty, and set so soon in Obscurity? Why, their own best Authors will unanimously acknowlege, it was by starting from the Principle, on which they were founded, and grew into Greatness. 'Twas this pay'd the Way for *Philip's* dangerous Intrigues, and *Cæsar's* Ambition. *Athenians*, *Spartans*, *Thebans* and *Romans* were gradually prepar'd for Slavery, and by abandoning public Spirit, they became an easy Prey to the nearest Invader at Hand, who had Power and Address enough to snatch at, and scramble for it. By warping their Passions from generous Pursuits to ignoble Objects, they became ripe for Shackles; such as the rampantly mad *Macedonian Boy*, or a more crafty *Roman Triumvir* thought fit to impose upon them; To whose infamous *Manes* (pardon me, ye Abettors

Abettors of passive Obedience; ye Advocates of hereditary, indefeasible, Right in Kings) I cannot pay any, the least, Incense; and wou'd as soon complement the Eruptions of a *Vulcano*, the Havock of a Hurricane, the Devourings of a Conflagration, that lay'd the Creation waste, as those *Scourges* of Heaven; those *Alexanders the Great*, or those *Lewisies the Great*; whom I regard not as GOD's Vicegerents on Earth, but as the Tools of penal Vengeance on self-debas'd, and self-inflav'd Nations, for betraying their Birthrights; for selling them, like *Esan*, for a Mess of Pottage; for their high Treason against Nature; for their abdicating the Prerogative, and forfeiting the Dignity and Characteristic of Man!——

But, 'tis Time; more than Time, to close this Head; and come, as my main Scope, to the Application of the Whole:

*Is it not now and always, good to be zealously affected in a good Thing, or Cause?——* And what Cause can so sensibly affect us, as that of our Country? And to whom shall we have Recourse for Relief, when it is menac'd by hostile Attempts, as at present, but to the *Delegates* of the Community and the *Executive Power*, with whom the Means of raising the Support, and the Methods of carrying it into Action are intrusted?

I now address myself with a faithful Boldness, but with duteous Humility and Respect, to each *Branch* of our Provincial *Legislature*; whom in a private Capacity, as Gentlemen, Friends, *Englishmen*, and Fellow-Subjects



Subjects under the best of Kings (and *Best* is Greatest in my Opinion) I sincerely love; and whom I cordially honour, as invested with the supreme Power here over a fine and flourishing Country, endear'd to me by the strongest Gratitude, and every warm, and tender Motive, that can flow from the conscious Heart of Man.

An important Cause indeed renders the convening of the *new Assembly*, even at this rigorous Season of the Year necessary; and its first Session is open'd by a Speech, worthy of his *Excellency* (whom we are here to consider as the immediate Substitute of the *Throne*) for a legal and competent Supply from them adequate to the urgent Occasion, and the Abilities of their Constituents; in Order that he may immediately fulfil the expected Purposes (as I said) of the late Honourable Commission from his Majesty; and uniting our proportion'd *Quota* of brave Volunteers with those of other Colonies, propitiously begin his March to repel Force by Force; to punish a flagrant Infringement of the Law of Nations; to secure the exterior Settlements, as a firm Barrier behind us; and to vindicate the just and ample Claims of the *British* Empire; now, on all Parts, Northward and Westward in our Continent, as well as in our Southern Islands, nay, in *Africa*, and in the *East-Indies* too, manifestly insulted, or audaciously invaded.

It were a Presumption deserving your Indignation and Censure, to dare to point out to your Wisdoms the Ways and Means, or any expedient needful to be us'd for raising the Supply in this pressing Extremity.

E

But

But surely I keep within my proper Sphere, while in general Terms I only urge what my sacred Function exacts from me, as a bounden Duty. I wou'd not sound forth an Alarm for romantic Expeditions in chimerical Perils; but, I confess, I wou'd *blow the Trumpet in Zion* rather with some Degree of honest Enthusiasm, than with a feeble Blast, for kindling public Spirit in real Danger, and prevent, as a Priest of the sacred Altar, that pure, Guardian, *Vestal*, Fire from ever being extinguish'd among us.

Let me then conjure you to weigh the high Consequence of these noble Colonies, for your own Sakes, as well as on Account of your Mother Country; who, having been the powerful Protectress, and careful Nurse of your Infancy, has not remitted her parental Care, even when you are grown to a State of juvenile Vigour; and it would be equally ingrateful and shameful not to act in Conjunction with her other Offspring in your common Defence, but still with childish Cries call upon her for further Aid, when you are at an Age, more than qualify'd to defend yourselves; especially as she is loaded with an Eighty Million Debt, (besides the vast annual Expences she is at in maintaining, for *Sovereignty* at Sea, a naval Force; and in supporting her other military and civil Lists) a Debt, contracted for the Protection of her Laws, Liberties, and Religion, against a Succession of *Popish Pretenders* to our Crown; and against their chief Patrons; those very Foes, implacable and inveterate, who now menace yourselves; and who are pursuing her with their Malice in the remotest Parts of her Dominions; never letting the Sun set



set on their Depredations; and wounding her most sensibly through your Sides.

• The first Principle of Nature calls on you, on the one Part, and Gratitude and Justice on the other, to distinguish yourselves on this Occasion, and rather to set an Example than to wait for one from your Neighbour, by paying back cheerfully, in a Mutuality of good Offices, and a generous Retribution, a small Portion, a Pittance, of what you owe her for your present Subsistence, as well as your original Existence. Let me tell you, my worthy Countrymen, the Eyes of your Constituents are now upon you, who as far as my Sphere of Observation extends, will scarce applaud you at your Return to your several Counties for being unreasonably frugal, or too indulgent to their Pockets against their Inclinations. They are Britons, and, when not misled by the Tales of designing Men, *such*, as will not grudge a Day or two of extraordinary Labour in the Field to support this Overture for national Benefit. The Eyes of your Sister-Colonies are upon you, who will be agitated by Shame or Rivalship to take their Measures from your Pattern. Assume then, the Glory of making your Pattern the Master-Spring of their Motion!—The Eyes of your venerable Mother-Nation will be upon you, who requires and expects, that in Proportion, as her own inviolable Products, and your Staples of Trade and Interchange are reciprocally lucrative, you wou'd imitate her Parliaments in a suitable Conduct, when *French* Invasions are threaten'd; and no longer be amus'd, like our Commissaries in *Paris*, by the futile, and time-spinning Wrangles, or

by all the stale Chicanery of a Treaty-making, and Treaty-breaking *Race*; but crush at a Blow the *Crocodile* in the Egg-Shell.—Nay, Gentlemen, the *Argus*' Eyes of the very *French* are upon you, who, by their various and conceal'd Emissaries, undisguis'd Jesuits, pardon'd Rebels, and traiterous Malecontents, will have dispatch'd to them at *Quebec*, or even *Paris*, the Accounts of your Proceedings, with more Speed, than they can be transmitted home. You shou'd consider, How well acquainted they are with the defenceless Condition of our various Colonies, and that they are hence embolden'd to undertake these destructive Projects; that, while they are carrying on a Chain of Forts of incredible Length behind us, almost from the *Tropic* to the Polar Circle, from new *Orleans* and the Bay of *Mexico* to beyond that of *St. Laurence* Northward, and within a trifling Distance of our chief Places for the Fur-Trade at the Bottom of *James's Bay*; that while they are ever and anon edging on us from the West, and striving to confine us to a comparatively-narrow Slip of Land by hemming us in between the *Apalachean Hills* and the Ocean; that while they are laying the Foundations of a Monarchy, greater than the four ancient Ones together, and extend their enormous *Louisiana* in their impudent Maps and hot Imaginations to the very South-Seas, and perhaps to *Japan*; that while they are doing, or contriving to do all this, we lie expos'd to their Insults and Depredations, without Fortifications, Magazines, and warlike Stores, or even a disciplin'd *Militia* to defend us against any sudden Hostility; so that if they were to take it into their Heads (which they are very capable of doing, even without



without waiting for a Proclamation of War) to make a quick March upon this, or either of the two bordering Colonies, with but Two Thousand Men of the regular Troops of *France*, attended with as many of their Woodrangers and *Indian* Allies, they wou'd find nothing to obstruct their Course till the *Atlantic* Ocean stopp'd them; but wou'd over run us at once, and with the same Rapidity and Violence that the back Forests sometimes suffer, when at a general Hunting the Woods are let on Fire by the Natives. You shou'd consider, that though *the Zeal of their House may often eat them up*;—That though their Zeal, I say, may be too volatile frequently, yet our's for that very Reason ought never to be too Phlegmatic; that though they now and then overshoot the Mark by too sanguine Hopes and hasty Aims, yet generally their Projects are the Result of long and deep Thinking, and laid far in Futurity, whereas many of us scarce consider even the present Time; in short, that they first deliberate coolly, and then execute speedily.—You shou'd consider how much it is your Duty to have a watchful Eye on all known, and suspected Enemies of the Government; to prevent the Poison of their false Rumours and secret Caballing from spreading among his Majesty's good Subjects; and to obstruct as much as possible, by empowering the Magistrates to act with Vigilance and Vigor, that Intelligence, which the Enemy hourly have of our Designs, and We rarely of theirs:—For it is melancholy to think of what I am well-assur'd, as I am of all other Facts here set down, that they have a high Way of Information, often travell'd through from *Albany*, and other Places of ours, to *Montreal* and the

the Parts adjacent. Every one of our Governments shou'd therefore offer Rewards for intercepting and detecting through all their Shapes and Disguises, those *Proteuses* that annually stroll down among us from *Georgia* to *Newa-Scotia*; for, (to use *Joseph's* Words to his Brethren in *Egypt*) *Those Men are surely Spies; and by the Life of Pharaoh, to pry into the Nakedness of the Land do they come.*—You shou'd maturely consider, what Advantages, by your omitting this Opportunity they will have over you next Summer, when they unite their Forces to oppose you and maintain their Usurpations; that it is high Time to raise a sufficient Force to give an immediate and decisive Blow; and that to receive another Defeat, or feebly to attempt and fail again; wou'd be more fatal, than to sit still and make no Effort at all. You shou'd consider indeed what their grand Schemes really are; no less, than to unite, by seizing on the vast interjacent Regions, their Northern with their Southern Colonies, their *Canada* with their *Mississippi*; to fix Garrisons on all the navigable Straits of the mighty Expanse of Mediterranean fresh-water Seas, *Ontario, Erie, Huron, Illinois,* and the *Superieur Lake*; behind which there are others, that probably communicate both with *Hudson's Bay* and the Pacific Ocean; as these do with one another. You shou'd consider that the great Object of their immediate Ambition is, to obtain a commodious Port on the *Atlantic Main*; (which their Engineers wou'd soon take Care to render stronger, as more important, than *Louisburg* is now by additional Works, and new Batteries) that, cou'd this be done, it wou'd be the first step to compleat their unbounded Hopes, and that the  
 Places,



Places, which present themselves principally to their Ambition are the River of *Hudson*, and the Bay of *Chesapeake*; that their Designs were only providentially frustrated on the former by the Dissipation of their formidable Fleet under Duke *D'Anville*; by which they intended to have taken and fortify'd for themselves, our defenceless Town of *New-York*, at the Mouth of it; while at the same Time a Land-Army, rendezvouzing then near *Montreal*, was ready to move down by the Lake of *Champlain* to surprize our naked *Albany* towards the Forks of it; and thus all Communication had been cut off between our Southern and Northern Colonies for mutual Defence, and an Asylum open'd for Swarms of Papists, Jacobites, Desperadoes, Convicts, and fugitive Negroes, to have join'd them, at the very Time, when an unnatural Rebellion at home, promoted chiefly by the *French*, was gnawing our Vitals, and an expensive War abroad was externally wasting us.—Had this Hell-concerted and Heaven-disappointed Armament succeeded, and a *Popish Pretender* been proclaim'd as our King, you may better conceive, than I describe, what direful Scenes of Blood and Horror, Protestants and loyal *Britons* had been involv'd in; nor wou'd any of our Settlements have escap'd some Part of the Storm, though they are extended in Length for full Fifteen Hundred Miles on the Coast, and contain, by the best Information I can receive, at least One Million of Inhabitants: [Which, by the Bye, however, doubles the Number of the *French* on this Continent, even from their own exaggerating Accounts, though we reckon in all the *Indians* nationally blended with them, and their promiscuous Posterity;

Posterity ; now as good *Frenchmen* and *Papists*, as themselves, by their wise Methods of Adoption and Incorporation, which from the Beginning they never neglected, and we always shamefully despis'd !]—You will hence likewise please to consider, that the Superiority of the *French* does not consist in a Continuity of Settlements, like ours : (Being more dispers'd in the vast Wilderness, and corresponding chiefly by Means of Blockhouses, Forts, and Trading-Places, at stated Distances on the *Mississippi*, *Ohio*, and Straits of the Lakes.) Nor does it consist in Numbers of Men, or Courage ; in neither of which, we know, they are yet comparable to us : But in dextrous Cunning, Ambuscading, political Intriguing, ready Obedience to civil or military Command, and in a natural Vivacity and Alertness in Action, they certainly excel us ; as they fatally do in a Knowledge of the Use of Arms ; being all from their Boyhood train'd up to it, muster'd and disciplin'd by Veteran and *European* Officers ; and, above all, in a Consolidation of Interests and Councils, being firmly united, though so widely scatter'd, under one Chief in supreme Command, the *Governor-General* in *Canada* : Whereas our Provinces, though so happily located, are disseminated in Mind ; and seldom can be brought to act with Unanimity.—You are therefore to supply this Defect, by which only despotic Governments have the Advantage of free States, with all possible Prudence, in your Negotiations and Conjunctions with contiguous Colonies, that we may firmly associate, without tedious Adjustments of trifling Punctilios, for common Preservation : But most especially it is now necessary, that a mutual Confidence be settled with  
 the



the Cement of fraternal Affection between the Legislative Powers of this Province ; for where this Corner-Stone is wanting, we build in vain ; and a manifest Tendency to Anarchy and Confusion ensues.——If this is preserv'd in your Debates, and those of your neighbouring Assemblies, no reasonable Man (humanly speaking) can any more doubt of a happy Issue to our glorious Undertaking, than of its Expediency and Necessity :——We are not only invited, but compell'd into it : The Enemy are at our Doors : They are intrenching, and fortifying in our Borders : They have slaughter'd our *Virginian* Forces ; and driven from their Habitations great Numbers of distressed, outlying Families, and industrious Adventurers, who might otherwise, by rapid Progress, advance the *British* Frontiers and the Christian Religion. They have intercepted our beneficial Southern Fur-Trade, and by the vilest Artifices render'd us cheap and suspectable in the Eyes of our ally'd *Indians* ; particularly the *Five Nations*, some Tribes of whom have seceded from their League, and migrated to themselves ; as, if not more powerful Protectors ; yet to be rely'd on, as more steadfast Friends. They have perverted Multitudes of honest heathen Clans into *christen'd* Demons. Their *Rome-imp'd* Priests have refin'd simple Savages into human Tygers, and to enlarge their Creed have totally corrupted whatever they knew of Morals before.——They wou'd now by Preoccupation, in Order to ground a Right to future, and still-growing Claims, engross that charming Country, from the Sources of the *Ohio* to its Conflux with the *Quabach*, which is truly worth fighting for in a righteous Cause, and is compar'd for

delicious Prospect and Fertility, to the Plains of *Milan*, the Garden of *Italy*, surrounded, and interspers'd with celebrated Lakes and Rivers; if indeed great Things, without being too much degraded, may admit a Comparison with small; a widely-expanded Landscape with a Pocket-Picture in Miniature; such a Brook as the *Po* with the *Mississippi*; or such little Fishponds as *Gorda*, and *Maggiore* with such *Euxines* and *Caspians*, as the Waters of the *Erie* and *Huron*.

Gentlemen of both *Houses*. As you are Guardians of the present Race, and Trustees of Posterity, stop in Time their Progress, since none know where it will otherwise End. O stop it in Time! Secure those blissful Regions, as a Jewel of the greatest Magnitude and Splendor in the *British* Crown, to be worn for ever by illustrious Descendants from King *George*; and to be exhaustless Reservations for your own Children, when these multiplying Provinces are overstock'd with People, as they will soon be from their natural Increase only. Remember the brave Atchievements of your Brethren of *New-England* in the late War: Think, how an Handful of undisciplin'd Farmers, fresh from the Plow, took the Bull by the Horns; possess'd themselves of their impregnable *Cape-Breton*, and, in its Rendition, as an Equivalent for all *Flanders*, purchas'd a Peace for *Europe*. Think on the native Bravery of your own Inmates; who, among the other *Americans* eminently and lately distinguish'd themselves at *Carthagena*; and convinc'd the World, that *Maryland* produc'd a Race of Heroes from her Forests, whose Lion-like Fierceness, in the Front of Fire and Death,

was



was only excusable for its generous Excess. — Think, that your Troop (if a *General* of Seniority is not sent hither from *Europe*) will have a *Chief* of their own to lead them to Conquest; a *Father*, by his Employment and Inclination; who, by the previous Measures he has taken, the unwonted Intelligence he has obtain'd of the Country and Enemy, and his unweary'd Application to the Grand Concernment in every Particular, has given us encouraging Omens of Success, and that in his intended March and Attacks, he will obviate all former Difficulties, prevent future Miscarriages, and revenge the Blood of our Countrymen, unprofitably shed! — O think of all this, and think (I repeat it again) that much Frugality may be sometimes a Crime, as, in a good Cause, Lukewarmness is always one. Think, that a moderate Taxation now will be most certainly the greatest Oeconomy, and the Means of saving very heavy future Expences, if the Foe by our Neglect shou'd grow too potent in our Frontiers to be soon or easily ejected! — I remember the Time (not many Years ago) when, in this Town, those few Persons, (among whom, it is known, I was one) who express'd their Apprehensions of *French* Attempts to make Settlements, where they since have done it to our Cost, found their Predictions receiv'd with but slender Impressions by many Men in popular Esteem for Sagacity. An Increase of Arms and Ammunition were then thought burthenfome and useless; and Invasions from *Utopia*, or the Moon, wou'd have been as soon dreaded; as from the Quarters, whence we are now molested! But let us avoid all Retrospections in a Matter, that requires universal Amity and Concord.

Let us acquaint ourselves better with *French* Politics and *French* Ambition. The History of every Nation in *Europe* will show ye, that their Monarchy has been grasping at supream Dominion there for near two Centuries; even at all, their *Charlemagne* once possess'd. *Papery*, too gross, too affrontive to common Sense, to be believ'd by their wise Men, is submitted to as their main Engine of State; and so wou'd *Mahometism*, if equally and essentially subservient to their grand Scheme; as we may well conjecture from their close Connexions with their best Allies, the *Turks*; having enter'd into an Agreement, as it shou'd seem, to keep the *Grand Seigneur* on the Throne of *Constantine*, in Order to share with him, some Time or other, the best Part of *Chriftendom*. Their Perfidy in solemn Treaties is a trite Proverb; and among themselves they laugh at all those, as incorrigible Dupes, who still continue to trust or believe them. Their Arrogance carries them so far as to boast that they can easily make up any Misfortune in War by their skill in the Cabinet, or at a Congress. The Reason of their Kings is publish'd from the Mouths of their Cannons; and where their Clergy fail, Dragoons more powerfully convert. What they are capable of doing this Way, let the terrible Massacre of *Paris*; and, if possible, the more horrid Revocation of the Edict of *Nantz*, inform ye: Not to dwell on what you know from every Gazette, their present Barbarities to their own Countrymen and Fellow-Subjects in *Languedoc*; nor on their hellish *Crusadoes* of Yore against the miserable *Albigenses*, chiefly for not believing, that a Bit of Bread, to be chew'd, devour'd, and digested by a Rat or a Mouse, as well as themselves,



selves cou'd not be transubstantiated by the mumbled  
 Words of a priestly Conjuror into the *Flesh* of GOD! —  
 Yes, these are they, who, being fetter'd themselves, wou'd  
 bring you under the same Yoke, and like the Rival  
 of their Pride and Ambition, the Devil, envy you that  
 Happiness, (a standing Reproach to Fiends and Slaves!)  
 from which they are for ever excluded! These, Gentle-  
 men, are the Foes you are to engage with; the emi-  
 grant Successors of those, whom your heroic Predeces-  
 sors so often vanquish'd, plucking the Plume of Tri-  
 umph from their Crests; and whose Capital Kingdom  
 they more than once over run from *Dan* to *Beersheba*!  
 Turn over the Pages of your shining Annals, and while  
 you read of what has been done in the Fields of *Cressy*,  
*Poitiers*, *Agencourt* and *Blenheim*, tell your bound-  
 ing Hearts the same Blood enriches your own Veins,  
 and ensures approaching Victory! Ye Sons of the *Refor-*  
*mation*, confirm'd by the Death of so many bright Mar-  
 tyrs, guard your holy Religion from *Papal* Persecution,  
 Idolatry, *Irish* Massacres, Gun-Powder-Treasons, and  
 worse than *Smithfield* Fires! — Protect your Estates,  
 your Laws, your Liberties, Ye Assertors of the glorious  
*Revolution*, from foreign Tyranny, though menac'd only  
 at the greatest Distance. — Yet, — G O D forbid, that  
 you shou'd use any Unchristian Methods even for com-  
 passing these good Ends; or shou'd conceive those ne-  
 farious Means warrantable in the Service of the best  
 Cause, which our subtle Adversaries make no Scruple  
 to use for the Maintenance of the worst! Whatever  
 is commendable in their Conduct, especially in their  
 national Concord, let us not disdain to imitate. Let  
 us be wise as those human *Serpents*, but innocent as  
 real

real Doves. Let the very Sounds of *France* and *Rome*, swell your Indignation, but not diminish your Charity! —Internal Sisters! That stalk Hand in Hand together, blasting alike the moral and natural Creation; spreading a twofold Pestilence around ( Detestable Religion; which only the most outrageous Tyranny can sustain! —Abominable Tyranny; which can only be mutually supported by Doctrines, shocking even to unprejudic'd Canibals!

Under the public Provocations, which some virulent *Papists*, perhaps encourag'd by the Proximity of the *French*, have lately given, though condemn'd by their less sanguine, and more discreet Partizans, I do not wonder that we are generally, because justly, alarm'd: But I cou'd wish, that the sole Object of the present short Session shou'd be the necessary Supply for hastening the Expedition, which ought not to be retarded by any other Avocation; for what is truly expedient may be sometimes unseasonable, if it may be safely postpon'd to a succeeding Opportunity of more deliberate Enquiry. Then without Cruelty to their Persons, or overstraining the Laws, let us muzzle the *Bear*, or cut off the *Tyger's* Fangs, and take all speedy, Parliamentary, and Christian Methods for Self-Security. I am satisfy'd there are some *Roman* Catholic Gentlemen of Fortune and Family, both here and in *England*, who do not swallow implicitly all the Impositions of that Church, though they hold external Communion with it; and the *Jesuits*, with whom the Mission of these Parts is solely entrusted, are too wisely indulgent not to come to a Sort of Composition with Men



Men of Sense in those Points, which they know how to stir over; and are assur'd to defend, what they cannot believe themselves, except to the Vulgar. Such Persons, though they might in general relish an establish'd *French* Religion, are not so far gone in Madness as to wish to live under a *French* Government.—— However this be, it is an Article of my Creed as firmly believ'd as any other, that all Men have a natural Right to remain unmolested for Opinions, merely conscientious, however absurd in themselves, or discordant with mine; but when these apparently tend to the Destruction of the State, and their Toleration becomes incompatible with it's Safety; then it is incumbent on the civil Establishment, by the same Sanction of Nature, either totally to suppress them, or keep them under such Restrictions of penal or preventive Statutes, as may be judg'd sufficient for our present and future Security.

But lest I exhaust that Patience, I have, I fear, too long try'd, I shall conclude all, with once more imploring you most pathetically to reflect, that you are *Britons!* A Term, that shou'd comprehend, in it's true Definition, every Social, every Christian Virtue; and exclude from it's Idea all narrow Notions, merely local Views, and mean-spirited Images.——All, who live under the Umbrage of old *England's* Laws: All, who are ready to the last Gasps, and to the last Parting to defend the Acquisitions of their Ancestors Industry and Virtue in the *European* and *American* Empires of our common King; with their Lives and Fortunes, I say: These, all these, give the only infallible Proof of their Right of Denizenship, and are true Brethren,

thron, and the legal Sons and Cobeirs of their General Mother; while all they, who wou'd unhinge her excellent Appointments in Church or State, betray her Rights, or even supinely behold her Dangers, are not only Parricides, but *Aliens* too, though born in the Midst of her great Metropolis.

O then, as you wou'd deserve that glorious Appellation; as you are intimately concern'd in the Consequences of the momentous Event, that has summon'd you now extraordinarily; as you are under the more peculiar Obligations of Honour, Trust, and Conscience, to promote the Happiness of the Community; of which you are not bare Members, but Rulers and Patrons: As you will answer it to your GOD; your King; your Young and Noble Proprietary; and your own Constituents: O permit not the Zeal of a true Public Spirit to cool in your Breasts; but on this, and all other, worthy Occasions, improve it in yourselves; kindle, encrease it in others; and transmit the hallow'd Principle to your Children's Children; to latest Posterity; till only the Day of Judgment and the Kingdom of CHRIST put a Period to the *British* Dominion in our *New World*; or till Time shall be lost in Eternity! And, For this you will be attended with public Prayers and Blessings upon Earth, as Universal Benefactors; and shine in distinguishable Glory, hereafter, even as *the Stars of Light in the Firmament of Heaven, for ever and ever! — Amen! —*

P I N I S





